Newark News

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Join the conversation!

oin the conversation! We want to hear from you! The City is embarking on two exciting projects that can only succeed with your help. First, the City has hired Group 4 Architecture, Research + Planning, Inc. to lead the City in a master planning process for City facilities. You will have the opportunity to participate in community surveys and public meetings, in which you can express your desires for use of current and future buildings. Are you interested in an event center? Maybe a new senior center? Perhaps you're looking for a place that you can rent for your party or to remote work during the day. We would like to hear from you; how you want City facilities to serve your needs, so the City can plan for the future.

The second project is updating our Public Art Master Plan. Gail M. Goldman Associates and Art Builds Community have teamed up to lead the City's first update to its Public Arts Master Plan. There will be popup events, online surveys, and other opportunities to express all types of art you would like to see throughout our community. The only limitation is your imagination!

Look for these opportunities in the springtime. To be notified of ways you can participate, send your email address to roya.gonzalez@newark.org; and please pass along the information to others - the more participation, the better!

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CITY COUNCIL ● Mayor Michael K. Hannon ● Vice Mayor Sucy Collazo ● Luis L. Freitas ● Mike Bucci ● Matthew Jorgens

Automated license plate readers

ewark Police Department (NPD) recently completed installation of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras in the city to produce immediate alerts on previous criminal offenses committed as well as provide warnings on potential offenses in progress. After significant research and community outreach, the City of Newark entered into a three-year agreement with Flock Safety to install and maintain twenty ALPR cameras. The cameras are installed at major city entrance and exit points to include the following locations: Stevenson Boulevard at Balentine Drive, Stevenson Boulevard at Cherry Street, Central Avenue near Timber Street, Mowry Avenue at I-880, Thornton Avenue at I-880, Newark Boulevarad at I-84, and Thornton Avenue at I-84.

ALPR technology use is not new to Newark. Since 2011, NPD has

utilized mobile vehicle-mounted ALPR technology on police vehicles. In 2017, three fix-mounted ALPR cameras were installed in locations within the City to address crime and quality-of-life concerns.

ALPR data is anonymous and does not contain any personal information. The registered owner of a vehicle is not known by the ALPR system, nor can it be obtained through the ALPR system. The Federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act (DPPA) requires that law enforcement have a permissible purpose for connecting an anonymous license plate number to a registered owner via Department of Motor Vehicles. ALPR data is not shared with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement or Customs and Border Patrol and is not used for immigration or traffic enforcement. The California Values Act (SB 34) was passed in 2015 to protect privacy and immigrant safety by prohibiting law enforcement agencies from sharing license plate and personal information for immigration enforcement with federal agencies. All ALPR data collected from cameras within the City of Newark belongs to the Police Department, is encrypted, securely stored, and is retained by Flock Safety for only 30 days.

On October 28, 2022, the ALPR system purchased from Flock Safety went live. The system has already assisted Newark PD significantly with a homicide investigation, a carjacking investigation, and several grand theft and burglary investigations. Additionally, ten wanted vehicles were apprehended by NPD after system alerts. NPD will provide information about the system's effectiveness to the City Council in Spring 2023 during Police Chief Gina Anderson's annual report to the Newark City Council.

Are you ready to be a community leader?

ave you been looking for an opportunity to work and engage with the community? Explore what the City of Newark Recreation Department has to offer. We are currently recruiting for our aquatics division and can get you started immediately in a fun and engaging position. Whether you are 15 or 60 or in between you can be a community superstar.

Our newest opportunity is to join our Lifeguard Academy (Intern position). This job is a paid training opportunity for anyone who is comfortable in the water but may need more skill development before diving

into lifeguarding. This position works on your swimming skills to prepare you for a lifeguard or swim instructor position as well as develops you initially to be a waterslide dispatcher. This is a great starting place, and you get paid while you learn.

Our lifeguard position offers up the opportunity to be a primary safety leader supervising the water and ensuring the safety of the community as they swim and play in the water. This position is for those who have great swimming skills or who are already certified.

Our swim instructor position works directly with people of all ages

to build the life skills of water safety teaching others how to swim in a comfortable indoor environment. This position is for those with comfortable swimming ability.

For more information, check out all of these opportunities on CalOpps:

Lifeguard Academy – Intern - https://www.calopps.org/newark/job-20303122

Lifeguard - https://www.calopps.org/ newark/job-20301662 Swim Instructor - https://www.calopps

Swim Instructor - https://www.calopps.org/newark/job-20302904



Looking for answers? Need to report an issue?

itizens now have another option to stay connected with the City of Newark! You can now text the City to find information or report issues! TextMyGov is a new way to use your mobile phone's text messaging service to quickly report issues and find information on the go. To get started, text Hi to 510.903.4NWK (4695).

Receive City Alerts

You may also receive City Alerts by simply signing up to receive City notifications via text message. Opt-in to either of the following programs:

- General Alerts (English): NEWARKALERTS
- General Alerts (Spanish): NEWARKALERTAS

Get Started: Text in one of the above keywords to: 91896. After the initial keyword is sent, you will receive a confirmation message asking you to reply YES to verify opt-in. You may receive up to four text messages a month with a notification for each alert category opted-into. Message and data rate may apply. Check with your carrier for details.



New Community Non-profit Grant Program

he City of Newark is proud to offer the Newark Community 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Grant program recently approved by the Newark City Council. This program will help support community non-profits to continue or re-start valuable services to

Newark and its residents. Community grant awards range from \$500 - \$25,000 per organization. For more information and to apply, visit www.newark.org/nonprofitgrants after December 15th or email humanservices@newark.org.



Viola Blythe Award winners

fter a two-year hiatus due to the worldwide pandemic, the City of Newark once again held its Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner honoring City volunteers and nominees for the prestigious Viola Blythe Awards who give so generously of their time and effort to enrich the lives of those in need.

The Great Gatsby Era gala was held at the DoubleTree by Hilton

on October 20, 2022, where the volunteers celebrated with dinner and music and the City Council thanked everyone for their dedication during this unprecedented pandemic.

This year's winners are John Becker, Volunteer of the Year; Newark Promotores, Group Award; and Harold Crossland, Senior Award. In addition, Montana Moresi was presented with a Special Recognition Award.



Assemblymember Alex Lee presented certificates to the winners of the Viola Blythe Awards. From left to right: Harold Crossland, John Becker, Assemblymember Lee, Lorena Talavera, and Claudia Pedraza.



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Bulletin Board

City Offices closed

- Fridays, December 9 and 23
- December 26, 2022 January 2, 2023 Holidays
- January 16, 2023 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- February 20, 2023 Presidents' Day

Operating hours

City offices are currently open to the public Monday through Thursday and every other Friday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Most services are still being offered online, by email, and by telephone. Please visit *www.newark.org* for updated information for your specific needs. Please be advised that this schedule is subject to change. Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information.

Republic Services Holiday Schedule

• *Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25, 2022, New Year's Day - Sunday, January 1, 2023.* No collection service; administrative offices closed. If your pickup day falls on one of these holidays, it will be delayed by one day.

Holiday tree collection

Republic Services offers FREE holiday tree collection and recycling to Newark residents. Trees are taken to a compost facility to be turned into beneficial mulch and compost.

Curbside collection of unadorned and unflocked trees will occur from January 11 - 25, 2023. There is no need to call for collection. Simply place trees curbside for pickup on your regular service day. Trees taller than 5' must be cut down. No flocked trees are accepted. Please remove all ornaments, tinsel, stands and other decorations before placing tree out for removal.

Unadorned trees can be cut into smaller pieces and placed into the green organics cart. Pieces must fit loosely into the card. The lid must be closed for service to occur. Flocked trees may be cut down into smaller pieces and placed loosely in the black trash cart with the lid closed.

For more tips about what can be composted or recycled in Newark visit **RepublicServicesAC.com**.

Newark Library

Starting January 7, the library will host Music Hour performances featuring our 7-foot grand piano, each 1st Saturday of the month, 2:30-3:30 pm.

Wednesday, December 21, 2-6 pm Bay Area Community Health is providing free COVID vaccines at the library. To schedule an appointment, call 510-252-6845.

Check the library website *aclibrary.org* for many more programs and events.

You can access free, live online tutors for all ages by searching the library website for Brainfuse. Now available 24/7 (funded by the California State Library).

You can also search the website for LearningExpress to find many practice tests, including: GED, SAT, ACT, GRE, MCAT, LSAT, and more.

Use the free SimplyE app with your library card to borrow over 140,000 eBook titles & over 20,000 eAudiobooks.

Senior Discount on Solid Waste and Recycling Service

Newark seniors aged 65 and over can receive a 15% discount on the cost of their residential solid waste and recycling collection service. Eligible residents can simply call the Republic Services Customer Service line at (510) 657-3500 to request an application form via mail or email and then send that form in for processing. A driver's license or birth certificate is acceptable as proof of age.